

Drive Begins for City Hall Fountain

Press-Herald

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Series 11, Volume V, Number 47



3238 Sepulveda Blvd., Torrance, California 90510—Wednesday, December 11, 1968

10c Per Copy By Carrier 50c Per Month By Mail, \$18 per Year

78 Pages

Homeowners' Groups Funds Pledged For Fountain At City Hall

Southwood Riviera Homeowners' Association has presented a \$100 check to the City of Torrance to be used toward the construction of a fountain in the civic center complex.

The Southwood group is the first to come forward with a contribution toward the \$20,000 fountain, although 10 other Torrance homeowners' groups have pledged to donate \$100 each.

Half the fountain's cost — \$10,000 — must be raised through local contributions. The other half will be paid for by the City of Torrance.

The homeowners' pledges were made during a meeting at City Hall last week.

On hand to collect the \$100 Southwood contribution was Mrs. Don Pettie of the Chamber of Commerce Beautification Committee. Making the presentation was Len Wyngarden, president of the Southwood Riviera Homeowners' Association.

City Councilman William J. Uerkwitz, father of the fountain project, has predicted enthusiastic support for the plan among local residents.

The sculptured fountain will become a focal point within the Torrance Civic Center.

Market Robbed By Man

An armed robber escaped with an unknown quantity of cash early Tuesday after holding up Thriftmart, Inc., at 2217 Palos Verdes Blvd.

Store checker Timothy Rice told police the suspect entered the store about 1:20 a.m. and brought a carton of cigarettes to the counter. When Rice turned to ring up the sale, the suspect pulled out a gun and ordered him to hand over the contents of the cash register.

"Hurry up. Quit stalling and get the money under the tray, too," the suspect reportedly said.

After gathering up the cash, the robber forced Rice to the rear of the store at gunpoint, police said.

Car Rams Truck in Heavy Fog

Dense fog has been blamed for a traffic accident Friday morning in which a car rammed the side of a long trailer truck at the intersection of Crenshaw Boulevard and Jefferson Boulevard.

The driver of the car, Karl G. Aronson, 65, of 1722 W. 245th St., La Brea, apparently failed to see the truck, which was making a left turn onto Crenshaw Boulevard, police said.

Aronson was treated for minor injuries at San Pedro Community Hospital and released.

Driver of the truck was 52-year-old Webster Lee Long of Gardena.

Educators Traveling In Samoa

Dr. Donald E. Wilson, a Torrance city councilman, is currently in Pago Pago, American Samoa, with a team of educators who will deliver a preliminary evaluation of the territory's educational needs.

Wilson, director of teacher education at USC, is accompanied by Wallace R. Muelder, associate dean of the USC School of Education; Robert Shanks, Burbank Superintendent of Schools; and Dr. Paul Lawrence, San Francisco's regional commissioner of education.

They will study the use of teaching aids and closed-circuit television in elementary and high schools, and also for adult vocational education. Pre-school programs and the training of administrators will also be investigated.

The educators left Sunday and will return within the next week.



LAST MINUTE CHECK . . . Officer Richard Schwanbeck of the Torrance Police Department takes inventory in the property warehouse at the police station in preparation for Saturday's semi-annual auction. Just in time for Christmas, the local police will be unloading dozens of home appliances, car stereos, and bicycles which have remained unclaimed for the past six months. The auction begins at 9 a.m. behind the Torrance Police Station. Proceeds will be deposited in the city's General Fund. (Press-Herald photo)

Exchange Club to Name Boy, Girl of the Year

The Exchange Club of the South Bay has initiated its annual competition to find the boy and girl of the year for scholarship awards, according to Dave Beisel, project chairman for the group.

The Boy and Girl of the Year scholarship awards program is a statewide project of the California District Exchange Clubs, Beisel explained. It is intended to honor talented boys and girls for their achievements in school and community service, sports, and extra curricular activities.

A SENIOR boy and senior girl will be selected from each of the six high schools in the Exchange Club South Bay area. They include Aviation, Redondo Union,

Mira Costa, Rolling Hills, Palos Verdes, and Bishop Montgomery High Schools.

Entries will be submitted to a panel of judges consisting of local business and professional people. They will select 10 boys and 10 girls from throughout the state as finalists.

Finalists will then submit an essay on a subject to be chosen by the California District Exchange Club project chairman, Beisel said. One boy and one girl will be selected to receive scholarships from the finalists.

WINNERS will be honored at the annual convention of the Exchange Clubs. They will receive a \$500 scholarship and read their

essays to the Exchange Club members.

Nominees from the Exchange Club of the South Bay will be selected at the end of the fall semester, Beisel said.

Carson Area Baby Drowns

Fifteen-month-old Patrick G. Lefevre, 1340 W. Carson St., drowned in a bathtub Monday after his mother left him alone in the tub for about 15 minutes.

Mrs. Sylvia Lefevre, 23, discovered the body of her son, police said. Mrs. Lefevre, who is eight months pregnant, was taken to Harbor General Hospital and given sedation.

Pre-Christmas Sale Police Auction Slated Saturday

By NATALIE HALL Press-Herald Staff Writer

Santa Claus is expected to have a field day Saturday when Torrance police open up warehouse doors for their semi-annual auction of unreturnable stolen goods.

In fact, the warehouse itself, with its rows of bikes, appliances, and goodies of all sorts, could easily be mistaken for Santa's workshop two weeks before Christmas.

The public auction will be held at the rear of the police station, 3131 Torrance Blvd., beginning at 9 a.m. The mammoth sale is expected to continue past noon.

IT WILL be bargain time for the hundreds of local residents expected to turn out for the auction, according to Officer R. L. Schwanbeck, property warden.

The real winner, however, will be the City of Torrance general fund, which will pocket the proceeds from the sale. Some \$2,600 was grossed during the last auction, Schwanbeck recalled.

As a general rule, every item is sold, although the Police Department reserves the right to remove any item from auction if bids are too low.

SCHWANBECK noted that the warehouse treasure trove contains 16 bicycles, nine television sets, innumerable auto stereos, and a host of other items, including radios, stereo sets, tools, car tires, auto parts, purses, records, watches, business machines, binoculars, and fire extinguishers, to name but a few.

Where does all this lovely loot come from? Most of it was recovered from burglary suspects under highly suspicious circumstances, Schwanbeck reports. A few of the items were apparently lost and turned in to the department by local residents.

The police department attempts to return the property to its owners for at least six

Coins Taken

Burglars broke into Alta Dena Dairy sometime Sunday night and stole \$1,252 in coins and currency from a cash drawer. The dairy, located at 107 Palos Verdes Blvd., was discovered Monday morning with the padlock removed from the cooler door.

months. If they are unsuccessful, they auction off the items.

IRONICALLY, police point out, they are unable to return a large percentage of the items stolen or lost because the victims are unable to give them positive proof of ownership.

Police advise all citizens to write down the serial numbers of home appliances and keep the lists in a safe place in case the articles are lost or stolen. Belongings without serial numbers should be indelibly marked so that they may be positively identified.

Lines Now Open To Santa Claus

Direct lines to the North Pole were opened here at 10 o'clock this morning as the city launched its 11th annual Phone Santa event.

The lines, which will allow youngsters to talk directly to Santa Claus, will be open from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. through Friday.

Youngsters who want to talk with Santa should telephone:

320-7660

A total of nine lines are open, according to officials coordinating the event. Telephone lines are being manned by volunteers from throughout the community.

Those playing the role of Santa include businessmen, city councilmen, police officers, firemen, school officials, telephone company executives, and numerous professional men.

More than 7,000 youngsters used the North Pole lines last year in one of the biggest responses to the program in its history.

Rites Held for Early Resident

A pioneer resident of Torrance, Mildred Post Lancaster, died Sunday at the age of 82. Mrs. Lancaster was the widow of the late Dr. J. S. Lancaster, one of the first men to practice medicine in Torrance.

A resident of Torrance for the past 52 years, Mrs. Lancaster was a charter member of the city's first church, now the Central Evangelical United Methodist Church.

Services for Mrs. Lancaster were held today at 1 p.m. in

Stone and Myers Mortuary Chapel, Private inurnment followed at Inglewood Park. The Rev. Walter Stanton officiated.

Mrs. Lancaster is survived by a son, Dr. George Lancaster of Pasadena; two daughters, Mrs. Laurels Gaspar of Brentwood and Jean Lancaster of Torrance; and one grandson. Her nephew, George Post, is a Torrance bank executive and Planning Commissioner.

Mrs. Lancaster was born Jan. 29, 1886, in York, Neb.

JA Companies Name Official

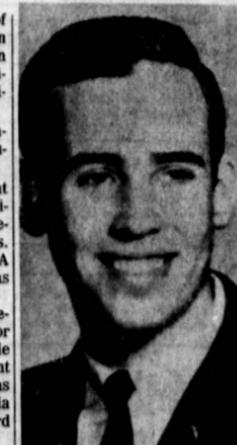
Bill Davis, 17-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Raphael Goodman of 16519 Haas Ave., has been elected chairman of the Centinella Valley Achiever's Association.

The association is the Chamber of Commerce for local Junior Achievement companies.

Davis, a straight-A student at North High School, has participated in the Junior Achievement program for three years. He served as president of his JA company for two years and as treasurer for one year.

The North High senior was selected President of the Year for the 1967-68 year at the Prairie Avenue Junior Achievement Center in Hawthorne and was one of 12 students in California to earn the JA Executive Award for 1967-68.

Davis is being considered for an appointment to the United States Air Force Academy.



BILL DAVIS Leads Achievers

Born in Controversy

Carson Property Owners Form Group

By DOUG HUFF Press Herald Staff Writer

If reactions by the city council and several homeowners' groups within the city can be used as a gauge, the newly formed "City of Carson Property Owners Association Inc." is destined to become one of the most controversial organizations in Carson.

Following a presentation of the organization's goals and organizational status, four homeowners' groups asked to be recognized for comment. All disapproved any connection with the CPOA. Letters were also read by the council responding in like terms.

Typical of the remarks made were those by Cino Licciardi, president, East Carson Homeowners' Association, and Rod-Bills, president-elect, Dominguez Hills Homeowners' Association.

"WE DON'T NEED anybody else to represent us. We can do

the job ourselves," said Licciardi. "For \$2 you can join ECHO and have a vote, for \$5 you can join them (CPOA) and not vote."

Said Bills: "Any representation you want you can get from the homeowners. It should come from the homeowners groups."

Dan Spence, president of the as yet unofficially incorporated group, and Don Davis, the vice-president, gave the council a brief rundown of the organization.

He explained the three types of memberships, Charter, costing \$150 for commercial and multiple type property owners; General, costing \$25 for businesses but not necessarily property or homeowners, and Associate, costing \$5 and designed for homeowners, small landowners and others.

THE ARTICLES of incorporation, he said, were largely drafted from the charter of the Chamber of Commerce.

In a letter presented Councilmen the CPOA listed its "recommendation: 'For just and fair government practices,' among them the following:

"That the City of Carson adopt and support a program whereby a comprehensive set of recommendations from the property owners of Carson and its citizens of Carson would be sought, gathered, and considered in all future planning, zoning, and urban development decisions in the City of Carson; especially, when determining what the City of Carson should strive to become, what the problems and possibilities of Carson are, and what general policy directions should be followed by private and public agencies which determine the future development of the City of Carson.

"IT IS OUR belief, the statement continued, "that anything less comprehensive will alienate our citizenry, result in conflicts of interests that will ultimately

hurt us all, and deny to the citizens of Carson the benefit of HOME RULE which we so fervently sought prior to incorporation, so decisively adopted in our choice of cityhood, and now, in our city's infancy, so desperately need."

Councilmen were lukewarm, possibly even cold, to the presentation, particularly Mayor John Marbut.

UNDER THE mayor's prodding, Spence admitted that the only persons eligible to hold office for the first two years were those with charter memberships, that the general members could vote but the small people, those holding associate memberships, could only air their views, could not vote or hold office.

Spence, who resides at 23105 Atmore Ave., Carson, also admitted that he did not own a commercial property or business, nor was he a "multiple land owner."

Marbut retorted that "It seems strange to me that the president of the organization would not qualify under charter membership yet he holds an office."

"IT SEEMS strange to me a property owner can pay \$5 and still not be able to vote. It seems strange to me nowhere does the CPOA mention industrial property."

"It seems to be a rather selective group of people who are involved in the City of Carson Property Owners Association," he concluded.

"We want to give due recognition to all established organizations and to work with all groups in the City of Carson," Marbut added.

Following the meeting, one councilman, an "off-the-record statement," said, "many of the backers of the CPOA were those who have opposed the city on many issues."